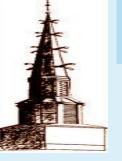
#### In this week's Steeple >>>

- Message from Fr Nick
- Theologian's Corner
- Pub Theology
- Faith Forum
- Roger and Joanne Green
- Prayer List







The Weekly Newsletter of St. Luke's Episcopal Church



# An Old Prayer for the New Year

On the fifth day of Christmas my true love gave to me, five golden rings! Yes, while still amidst the 12 days of Christmas - this weekend finds us on the cusp of the new year. Perhaps you have your resolutions already, perhaps you don't. Whatever the case may be whether resolutions or not, prayer is always good at the start of something new - something big. Here is a favorite of mine that I hope you enjoy praying and adapting as you see fit.

Grant, Lord, that I may pass through The coming year with a faithful heart.

There will be much to test me and to make weak my strength before the year ends. In my confusion I shall often say the word that is not true and do the thing of which I am ashamed. There will be errors of the mind and great inaccuracies of judgement which shall render me the victim of my own stupidities. In seeking the light, I shall again and again find myself walking in darkness. I shall mistake my light for Thy light and I shall shrink from the responsibility of the choice I make. All of these things, and more, will be true for me because I have not yet learned how to keep my hand in Thy hand.

Nevertheless, grant that I may pass through the coming year with a faithful heart. May I never give the approval of my heart to error, to falseness, to weakness, to vainglory, to sin. Though my days be marked with failures, stumbling's, fallings, let my spirit be free so that Thou mayest take it and redeem my moments in all the ways my needs reveal. Give me the quiet assurance of Thy Love and Thy Presence.

Grant than I may pass through The coming year with a faithful heart.

~Howard Thurman

In all the ways that God continues to work in your lives I give thanks. In all the ways that God will hold us, just as sure as He will journey with us this year, I give thanks. May God grant us peace as we pass through the coming year. What will be, will be. May our faith carry us through.

Happy New Year! Nick+



## Theologians Corner: : Frances Joseph Gaudet

Educator and Prison Reformer, 1934

Frances was born in a log cabin in Holmesville, Mississippi, in 1861, of African American and Native American descent. Raised by her grandparents, she later went to live with a brother in New Orleans, where she attended school and Straight College.

While still a young woman, Gaudet dedicated her life to prison reform. In 1894, she began holding prayer meetings for black prisoners. She wrote letters for them, delivered messages, and found them clothing. Later, she extended this ministry to

white prisoners as well. Her dedication to the imprisoned and to penal reform won her the respect of prison officials, city authorities, the governor of Louisiana, and the Prison Reform Association.

In 1900, she was a delegate to the international convention of the Women's Christian Temperance Union in Edinburgh, Scotland. Gaudet worked to rehabilitate young blacks arrested for misdemeanors or vagrancy, becoming the first woman to support young offenders in Louisiana. Her efforts helped to found the Juvenile Court.

Deeply committed to the provision of good education, she eventually purchased a farm and founded the Gaudet Normal and Industrial School. In time, it expanded to more than 105 acres, with numerous buildings, and also served as a boarding school for children with working mothers. Gaudet served as its principal until 1921, when she donated the institution to The Episcopal Church in Louisiana. Though it closed in 1950, the Gaudet Episcopal Home opened in the same location four years later to serve African American children aged four to sixteen.

Frances Joseph Gaudet died on December 30, 1934.

Together we pray: Merciful God, who didst raise up thy servant Frances Joseph Gaudet to work for prison reform and the education of the forgotten and oppressed:

Encourage us by her example and prayers to work for those denied the fullness of life, that all may experience thy perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.



Thursday, DEC 29<sup>th</sup>! 7:00pm Tumbleweed's

FAITH FORUM Sundays 9:15am-10:15am, Metcalf Hall Chapter 23 from 'The Path', Jan 1



Born a baby No skill to His name Hated at the get go But guided by His Father's vision Though thorns and scorn, yet fulfilling all the promises. He is our hope in trouble Overcoming this world's worst.

Roger and I thank the Lord for this first year in the North of Thailand. Our main assignment is to support Bible translation projects for 15 language groups in a nearby country. Roger has been serving the teams with his technical knowledge of Scripture audio on various devices and with giving training for using the Bible in everyday life. I've been supporting people with how the Bible relates to difficult issues like family relationships, alcoholic family members and caring for adults with disabilities.

It has not been an easy year for our family in the U.S. Yet they have come through the year. Would you please ask God to continue His abundant care for our family in the U.S. when their paths are thorny?

Thank you for coming alongside us in every aspect of our Asia journey! May God bless your celebration of our Savior's birth!

## Joanne & Roger

**Only by grace can we enter** Only by grace can we stand Not by our human endeavour But by the blood of the Lamb Into Your presence You call us You call us to come Into Your presence You draw us And now by Your grace we come Now by Your grace we come

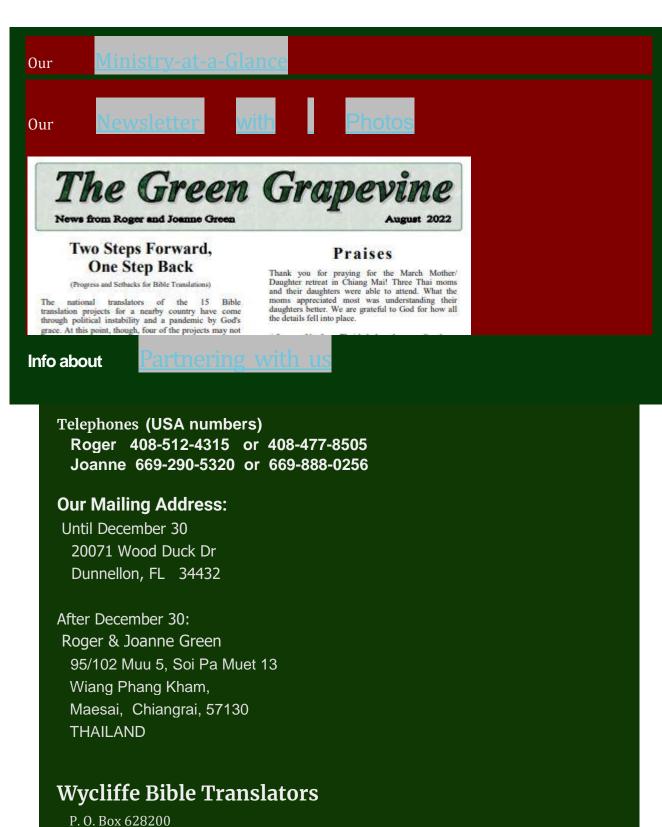
### Lord if You mark our transgressions

Who would stand? Thanks to Your grace we are cleansed By the blood of the Lamb

#### Song by Graham Kendrick



Oliver made his very first gingerbread house with grandpa!



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piphany is coming!

Please pray for: : Linda & Terry Piper, Liz Green, Michelle Sheffield, Catherine Sheffield, David King, Pris Snow, Ben Baker, Sanawbar, Diana Farris, Cindy & Tom Moffitt, Joel Hahn, Stacey & Butch Webster, Steve McCraw, Josh Harris, Katie Rolielard, Debbie French, Jody & George Bracken, Janice Lonski, David Swindell, Norma Perrier, Connie Finch, Dorothy & Elmer Buchanan, Diana Schremmer, Peggy Kauffman, Colleen, Shawn, Ryan Kiesel, Jason Carroll, Tony Clapper, Merry Lou & Bruce Neiswander, Jack & Karla Stoecker, Joseph, Tanis Reyburn, Tim, Mindy, Beth, Kay Boman Harvey, Shania Smith, Luke Karel, Jeri Wilson, Jeretta Amburn, Terry Grogan, and the Maxwell Family.

## Luke's Place Dec 29th, 2022 – Jan 4th, 2023

Dec 29 <sup>t</sup>	<sup>h</sup> Bible Study, 9:15am, Metcalf
	Green Country Service, 1pm, GCV
	Pub Theology, 7pm, Tumbleweed's
Jan 1 <sup>st</sup>	Holy Eucharist, Rite I, 8:00am, chapel
-	Faith Forum, 9:15am, Metcalf
	Holy Eucharist Rite II, 10:30am
Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Spiritual Discovery Group, 10am, Library

### Birthdays and Anniversaries, Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – Jan 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
Josh McCraw	1/3	Bryan & Nancy Megee	1/3
Kyle Peterson	1/5		
Lexi Phares	1/5		

If your or a loved one's name doesn't appear on the list, please email or call the office, and we will add your birthday or anniversary!

### St. Luke's Vestry Members

- o Doug McIver, Sr. Warden -- <u>dmciver@susandickcpa.com</u> 785-342-4328
- Nancy Woods, Jr. Warden <u>Nancywoods120@gmail.com</u>
- Jo Baughman <u>jybokla@aol.com</u>
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- Steve Van Aken <u>scvanaken@sbcglobal.net</u>
- Katherine Powell <u>kmpbmp48@gmail.com</u>

#### Bereavement Team 4

Becky Liehr, Jo Baughman, Karen Lewey, & Cathy Perrier

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Dolores McCreary, Choir Director/Organist 918-397-4828 <u>dolomc37@gmail.com</u>

